

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 05404 160033Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----102559 160038Z /12
R 150952Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8607

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 05404

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - T E X T (P A R A S 4 A N D 5 A D D E D)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, EAID, TW
SUBJECT: US WITHDRAWAL FROM SAFED AND JCRR

REF: STATE 185784, STATE 101230, TAIPEI 04656

1. ECON COUN QUERIED WANG MENG-HSIEN OF MOFA AUGUST 7 AS TO WHEN EMBASSY MIGHT EXPECT COUNTER PROPOSAL FROM GROG ON TERMINATION OF SAFED AGREEMENT. WANG RESPONDED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW. ISSUE IS MORE COMPLEX THAN HE ORIGINALLY THOUGHT AND HAS BEEN ELEVATED TO PREMIER Y.S. SUN'S OFFICE.

2. ON AUGUST 10 ECON COUN MET WITH ROBERT C.T. LEE, CHAIRMAN OF JCRR. ECON COUN STATED THAT IT WAS USG INTENTION NOT TO APPOINT HIS SUCCESSOR (MELVIN LEVINE) TO POSITION OF US COMMISSIONER ON JCRR. ALSO, GROG WOULD BE NOTIFIED FORMALLY AT TIME OF ECON COUN'S DEPARTURE THAT USG WAS TERMINATING ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT (AND JCRR AGREEMENT) SIX MONTHS FROM DATE OF NOTE.

3. LEE STATED THAT NEWS USG WISHED TO TERMINATE RELATION-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TAIPEI 05404 160033Z

SHIP WITH JCRR CAME AS NO GREAT SURPRISE. HE HAD BEEN ANTICIPATING SUCH AN EVENTUALITY EVER SINCE USG ANNOUNCED TERMINATION OF PARTICIPATION IN SAFED AGREEMENT. IN FACT, HE HAD TOLD PREMIER SUN IN JULY THAT ACTION SHOULD BE STARTED IMMEDIATELY ON DECIDING WHAT TO DO WITH JCRR WHEN US PRESENCE WAS TERMINATED. PREMIER REACTED BY APPOINTING LEE TO HEAD A COMMITTEE INCLUDING

C.C. YANG, VICE MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (MOEA) AND C.C. WANG, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT (CCEPD) TO COME UP WITH SUGGESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY EXECUTIVE YUAN AND THEN LEGISLATIVE YUAN. COMMITTEE HAS SO FAR CONSIDERED TWO ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS: (A) ORGANIZATION WOULD REMAIN AS IS AND BE PLACED UNDER CONTROL OF OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OR (B) ORGANIZATION WOULD BE BROKEN UP, WITH RESEARCH FUNCTION GOING TO MOEA, PLANNING FUNCTION TO CEPD AND REMAINING FUNCTIONS TO PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY.

4. LEE ASKED IF DECISION NOT TO APPOINT LEVINE WAS FIRM. WHEN ASKED WHY, LEE COMMENTED THAT HE HOPED US WITHDRAWAL FROM JCRR, AN ORGANIZATION WITH WHICH US HAD BEEN CLOSELY ASSOCIATED FOR THIRTY YEARS, COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED AS GRACEFULLY AS POSSIBLE. HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE LEVINE DESIGNATED AS US COMMISSIONER, SUCH DESIGNATION TO LAST UNTIL USG RELATIONSHIP WITH JCRR ENDED.

5. LEE STATED THAT DECISION ON WHAT TO DO WITH JCRR IS BOUND UP WITH DECISION ON FUTURE OF SAFED. THAT IS REASON WHY EMBASSY HAS NOT RECEIVED COUNTER PROPOSAL FROM MOFA ON TERMINATION OF SAFED AGREEMENT. PRESENT THINKING IN GROC IS THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE IF BOTH CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TAIPEI 05404 160033Z

SAFED AND JCRR AGREEMENTS COULD EXPIRE SIMULTANEOUSLY. AT THAT SAME TIME GROC WOULD ANNOUNCE THE END OF JCRR. AT THE GROC'S DECISION, WHATEVER IT MIGHT EVENTUALLY BE, ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF JCRR'S RESPONSIBILITIES.

6. ECON COUN COMMENTED THAT USG APPRECIATED FULLY GROC DESIRE TO TERMINATE JCRR, AND SAFED, IN SUCH A WAY THAT PUBLIC REACTION TO TERMINATION WOULD BE MINIMAL. HOWEVER, USG HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT WHAT HAPPENED TO SAFED WAS GROC INTERNAL PROBLEM AND THE SAME APPLIED TO JCRR. USG HAD INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER GROC REQUEST TO DEFER TERMINATION SAFED AGREEMENT BEYOND DECEMBER 31, 1978 BUT SUCH A REQUEST HAD NOT BEEN RECEIVED. USG MIGHT ALSO BE WILLING TO ENTERTAIN GROC REQUEST TO EXTEND JCRR AGREEMENT IF SUCH A REQUEST WERE RECEIVED. AGAIN, IT WAS UP TO GROC TO MAKE SUCH A REQUEST.

7. LEE STATED THAT IT WOULD BE MOST DIFFICULT FOR GROC TO COME TO QUICK DECISIONS REGARDING FUTURE OF SAFED AND JCRR. EXECUTIVE YUAN WILL WISH TO STUDY MATTER THOROUGHLY, AS WILL LEGISLATIVE YUAN. ULTIMATELY, FINAL

DECISIONS WILL REST WITH PRESIDENT CHIANG. IN LEE'S
OPINION, EARLIEST THAT ACTION COULD BE COMPLETED WOULD
BE SOMETIME IN 1979. WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR USG TO
DEFER TERMINATION OF BOTH SAFED AND JCRR AGREEMENTS
UNTIL JUNE 30, 1979? ECON COUN STATED THAT HE HAD
NO IDEA WHAT USG REACTION WOULD BE TO SUCH A PROPOSAL
IF IT WERE MADE. UNGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREATY TERMINATION, ECONOMIC COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TAIPEI05404
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780356-0384, D780333-0682
Format: TEL
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780862/aaaabzho.tel
Line Count: 123
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fc09f762-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 185784, 78 STATE 101230, 78 TAIPEI 4656
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1732994
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US WITHDRAWAL FROM SAFED AND JCRR
TAGS: PEPR, EAID, TW, SAFED
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fc09f762-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014